Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 02048 110559Z ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SSC-01 CPR-01 CCO-00 OMB-01 /053 W ------110603Z 003814 /13

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1166
INFO AMCONSUL BOMBAY IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL MADRAS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DACCA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU IMMEDIATE

EO 11652: NA TAGS: PFOR IN

SUBJ: DEATH OF INDIAN PRESIDENT

REF: NEW DELHI 2047

- 1. INDIAN PRESIDENT AHMED DIED OF MASSIVE HEART ATTACK FEBRUARY 11 AT 0852M
- 2. ONLY PREVIOUS PRESIDENT TO DIE IN OFFICE WAS ZAKIR HUSSAIN WHO DIED MAY 3, 1969 AND WAS BURIED MAY 5. GOI AT THAT TIME DECLARED 13 DAY PERIOD OF OFFICIAL MOURNING. FUNERAL WAS ATTENDED BY SOVIET PM KOSYGIN, UGOSLAV, AFGHAN AND NEPAL PMS, DUKE OF KENT FOR QUEEN ELIZABETH, AND GEORGE ROMNEY FOR PRESIDENT NIXON.

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3. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INDIAN CONSTITUTION, IVICE PRESIDENT BASAPPA DANAPPA JATTI WAS SWORN IN TO ACT AS PRESIDENT THIS MORNING WITH ALL POWERS OF THE PRESIDENCY PENDING ELECTION OF NEW PRESIDENT WITHIN SIX MONTHS. (BRIEF BIOGRAPHIC SUMMARY OF JATTI BEING SENT SEPTEL).

- 4. ALL EMBASSY OFFICES HAVE BEEN CLOSED FOR OUTSIDE BUSINESS FOR TODAY AND FLAGS LOWERED. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS CONDOLENCE MESSAGES TO "ACTING PRESIDENT JATTI", WIDOW OF LATE PRESIDENT, BEGUM ABIDA AHMED AND PRIME MINISTER GANDHI.
- 5. FUNVIRYAWILL TAKE PLACE FEBRUARY 14; THERE WILL BE 13 DAYS OF MOURNING. WE ARE CHECKIN G ON DETAILED FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PLANS REGARDING FOREIGN ATTENDANCE. SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

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To: STATE Type: TE

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